

APPEAL NO. 032434  
FILED OCTOBER 30, 2003

This appeal arises pursuant to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, TEX. LAB. CODE ANN. § 401.001 *et seq.* (1989 Act). A contested case hearing was held on August 12, 2003. The hearing officer determined that the appellant (claimant) did not sustain a compensable injury in the form of an occupational disease, and did not have disability. The claimant appeals the compensable injury and disability determinations, arguing that the determinations are in error. The respondent (carrier) urges affirmance.

DECISION

Affirmed.

The claimant contended that she sustained a repetitive trauma injury from performing her work activities, opening and closing heavy metal doors, as a Juvenile Correction Officer at the Texas Youth Commission and that she has had disability as a result of that injury. The claimant had the burden to prove that she sustained a repetitive trauma injury as defined by Section 401.011(36) and that she has had disability as defined by Section 401.011(16). There was conflicting evidence presented with regard to this issue. The hearing officer is the sole judge of the weight and credibility of the evidence (Section 410.165(a)) and, as the trier of fact, resolves the conflicts and inconsistencies in the evidence, including the medical evidence (Texas Employers Insurance Association v. Campos, 666 S.W.2d 286 (Tex. App.-Houston [14th Dist.] 1984, no writ)). The hearing officer was not persuaded that the evidence established a causal relationship between the employment and the claimed left carpal tunnel syndrome. The hearing officer's determination is not so against the great weight and preponderance of the evidence as to be clearly wrong or manifestly unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175 (Tex. 1986).

The 1989 Act requires the existence of a compensable injury as a prerequisite to a finding of disability. Section 401.011(16). Because the claimant did not sustain a compensable injury, the hearing officer properly concluded that the claimant did not have disability.

The decision and order of the hearing officer are affirmed.

The true corporate name of the insurance carrier is **STATE OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT (a self-insured governmental entity)** and the name and address of its registered agent for service of process is

For service in person the address is:

**RON JOSSELET, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
STATE OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT  
300 W. 15TH STREET  
WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR. STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 6TH FLOOR  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701.**

For service by mail the address is:

**RON JOSSELET, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
STATE OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT  
P.O. BOX 13777  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-3777.**

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Thomas A. Knapp  
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

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Chris Cowan  
Appeals Judge

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Edward Vilano  
Appeals Judge